Remarks

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, 11-20 and 22-24 are now in this application. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 21 are hereby canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9 and 11 are hereby amended. Claims 22-24 are newly added. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections--35 USC 102 and 103

Original claims 1-4, 6-10, 14-15, and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § . 102 as being anticipated by Hackbarth (US Patent 7,107,312).

Original claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Hackbarth as applied to claim 2 in view of Celi. Original claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Hackbarth as applied to claim 10 in view of Richomme. Original claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Hackbarth as applied to claim 9 in view of Haimovich. Original claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Hackbarth as applied to claim 9 in view of Sato. Original claims 16-18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Hackbarth as applied to claim 9 in view of Matus.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections in view of the claims as hereby amended.

Claim 1 is hereby amended and now recites as follows.

1. An apparatus for an automatic conferencing service, the apparatus comprising:
    a service logic execution environment in a telecommunications service network; and
    automatic conferencing service running in the service logic execution environment;
    a conference coordination service logic program (SLP) as part of the automatic
        conferencing service;
    an extensible markup language (XML) parser as part of the automatic conferencing
        service; and

a notification SLP as part of the automatic conferencing service, wherein the

notification SLP is configured to send conference announcement messages to

devices of conference attendees;

wherein **the conference coordination SLP is configured to send an XML**

document to the XML parser, and to receive conference request

information from the XML parser for use in registering a conference,

wherein **the notification SLP is configured to receive the XML document from**

the conference coordination SLP, to send the XML document to the XML

parser, and to receive attendee information from the XML parser for use

in notifying attendees for the conference.

(Emphases added.)

As shown above, claim 1 now recites a conference coordination SLP, an XML parser, and a notification SLP. Furthermore, claim 1 now recites that "the conference coordination SLP is configured to send an XML document to the XML parser, and to receive conference request information from the XML parser for use in registering a conference" and that "the notification SLP is configured to receive the XML document from the conference coordination SLP, to send the XML document to the XML parser, and to receive attendee information from the XML parser for use in notifying attendees for the conference".

The above limitations are supported, for example, by FIG. 3 of the original application and the description thereof on pages 17-18. Further description of the conference coordination SLP, the XML parser, and the notification SLP are given on pages 9-14 of the original application.

Applicants respectfully submit that, with these added limitations, claim 1 is now patentably distinguished over the cited art.

In particular, Hackbarth et al does <u>not</u> teach or suggest the expressly-recited claim limitations that "the conference coordination SLP is configured to send an XML document to the XML parser, and to receive conference request information from the XML parser for use in registering a conference" and that "the notification SLP is configured to receive the XML document from the conference coordination SLP, to send the XML document to the XML parser, and to receive attendee information from the XML parser for use in notifying attendees for the conference." As indicated in the

office action, no extensible markup parser is taught by Hackbarth. (Office Action, page 10, lines 1-3.)

Regarding Celi (cited in relation to original claim 5), Celi also does not teach or suggest the expressly-recited claim limitations that "the conference coordination SLP is configured to send an XML document to the XML parser, and to receive conference request information from the XML parser for use in registering a conference" and that "the notification SLP is configured to receive the XML document from the conference coordination SLP, to send the XML document to the XML parser, and to receive attendee information from the XML parser for use in notifying attendees for the conference." As indicated in the office action, Celi teaches use of a voice extensible markup language to facilitate user interaction with speech-enabled services. Such voice and speech related technologies are unrelated to, and do not teach, the above-recited claim limitations.

Thus, applicants respectfully submit that, with the above-discussed amendment, claim 1 is now tailored with specific limitations that patentably distinguished it over the cited art and that this rejection is now overcome.
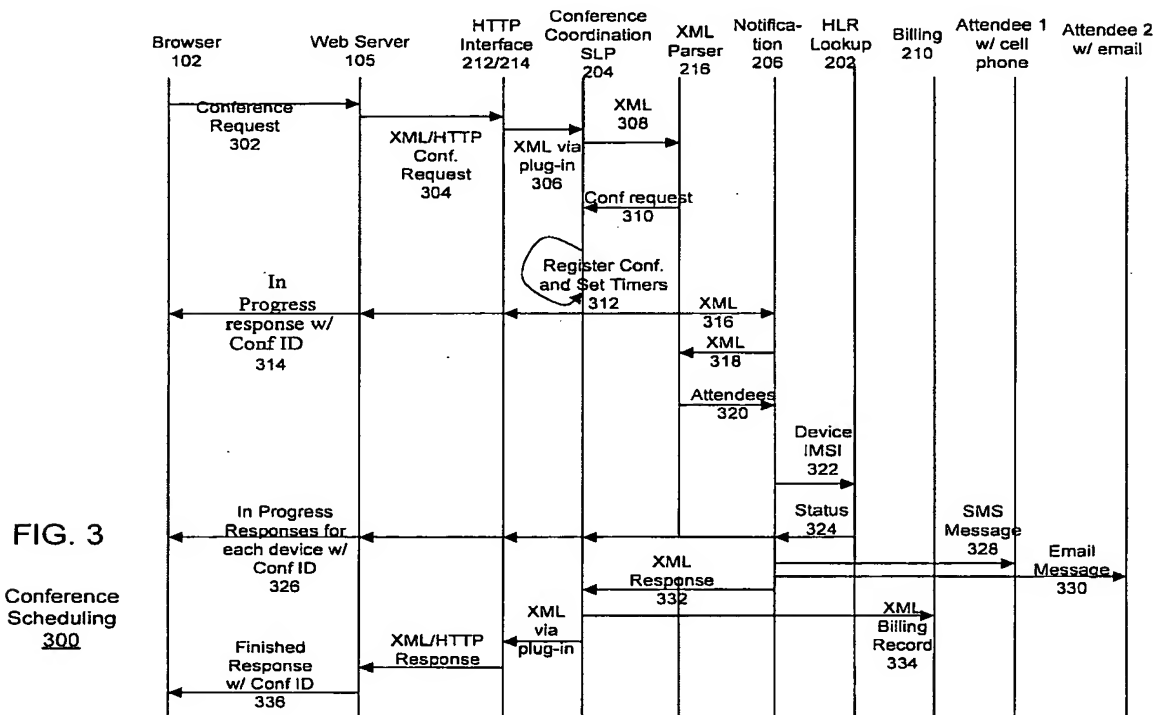
Claims 3-4 and 7-8 depend from claim 1. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are now patentably distinguished over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above in relation to claim 1.

Claim 9 is an independent claim and is amended similarly as claim 1 is amended. In particular, claim 9 now recites "A method of scheduling an automatic conference, the method comprising: reception of a conference request, including conference information specified by a user in an extensible markup language (XML) document, by a conference coordination service logic program (SLP) of an automatic conferencing service running in a service logic execution environment within a telecommunications network; **registration of the conference by the automatic conferencing service conference coordination SLP which extracts conference information from the XML document using an XML parser**; and **notification of attendees of the conference by the automatic conferencing service by a notification SLP which extracts attendee information from the XML document using the XML parser.**" (Empahsis added.) Therefore, for reasons discussed above in relation to claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is now also patentably distinguished over the cited art.

Claims 11-20 depend from claim 9. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are now patentably distinguished over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above in relation to claim 9.

Newly added claims 22-24 recite various specific steps in a method of scheduling an automatic conference.

The subject matter of new claims 22-24 is supported, for example, by FIG. 3 and the description thereof on pages 17-18 of the original application. For convenience of reference, FIG. 3 is reproduced below.

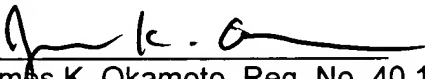FIG. 3

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Further description of system, specific components of the system (such as, the HTTP server plug-in, the HTTP dispatcher SLP, the conference coordination SLP, the XML parser, the Notification SLP, the Home Location Register SLP, the Email Plug-in, and the Billing SLP), and their operation are described on pages 3-17 of the original application.
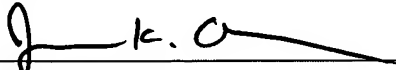
Conclusion

For the above-discussed reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims, as hereby amended, are now patentably distinguished over the cited art. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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James K. Okamoto, Reg. No. 40,110
Tel: (408) 436-2111
Fax: (408) 436-2114

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Signature:			
Typed or Printed Name:	James K. Okamoto	Dated:	January 28, 2008
Express Mail Mailing Number (*optional*):			